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Address of Rt. Rev. T.B. Lyman
May 12th, 1887

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ADDRESS

BY THE BISHOP,

THE RT. REV. T. B. LYMAN, D. D., LL. D.,

TO THE

Seventy-First Annual Convention

OF THE

Diocese of North Carolina,

MAY 12th, 1887.

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RALEIGH :

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Address of the Bishop.

Dear Brethren of the Clergy and Laity:

Since the meeting of our last Convention, three of the oldest clergymen in the Diocese have been called to give an account of their stewardship, viz.: Rev. John T. Clark, Rev. Dr. Gholson and Rev. Mr. Berry. More than a year ago, Mr. Clark felt compelled, by failing health, to give up his charge at Leaksville and at Reidsville. For a while, his health appeared somewhat improved, but soon increasing infirmities reminded him that his end was drawing near, and during my recent absence, he was called to his reward. He was an earnest, faithful laborer, and was greatly esteemed and beloved by all who knew him. Dr. Gholson was in failing health when he removed to Oxford, some two years ago from Baltimore, but he hoped a change of climate and of labours, might avail to restore him. But it was soon apparent that his work was nearly over, and he resigned his charge to remove to his plantation in Alabama. He lingered until the 6th of August last, when his wearied spirit took its flight. He had been a faithful and earnest worker, and enjoyed the esteem and confidence of all who knew him. The Rev. Mr. Berry was much the oldest of any of our colored clergy. He laboured faithfully for many years in Asheville, and only gave up the work, when old age and increasing infirmities rendered it impossible for him to continue his charge. To the very last, he retained the confidence and love of the whole community, and died during the past season in New York, whither he had gone to reside with members of his family.

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And while we have thus been called to mourn so many of our own clergy, we have also to lament that during the past few months, no less than three of our oldest Bishops have been called from us.

The Rt. Rev. Horatio Potter, Bishop of New York, had been almost wholly disabled for three years past. He had long occupied a conspicuous position, and taken an active part in every form of Church work. His long Episcopate witnessed a wonderful growth of the Church under his jurisdiction, with a large measure of peace and harmony. And soon after his departure, we were called to mourn one specially dear to the people of this Diocese, the Venerable Bishop Green, of Mississippi, who spent so large a portion of his ministry in North Carolina. It is needless for me to say to you, my brethren, how greatly he was loved and honored throughout our State. He was the very embodiment of meekness, gentleness and the truest affection. With a deep and unfaltering devotion to the principles and doctrines of the Church, he never lost sight of the Apostolic precept to speak the truth in love. His memory will long be cherished among us, with a deep and abiding affection. And now, quite lately, our Venerable Presiding Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Lee, of Delaware, has also been taken from us. He was a man of very decided ability, of calm and well balanced judgment; of great gentleness of spirit; and wherever he was known, he was held in universal respect and honor. As Presiding Bishop, he won for himself the increasing love and reverence of all his brethren. Thus one after another of our older Bishops are passing away from us, and leaving us the poorer for the lack of their wise counsels,—their pure and encouraging examples. May we all heed the warning lesson which is thus conveyed to us, "Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

My first official act, after the close of our last Convention, was the visitation, on the next day, Sunday May 23d, of

Calvary Church, Tarboro. After Morning Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Quin and Ingle, and Rev. Dr. Marshall, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. At night, in the same church, after a sermon by Rev. G. Higgs, I confirmed sixteen persons and addressed them.

Monday, May 24th, in St. Mary's Church, Edgecombe county, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Messrs. W. J. Smith and Robinson, I preached, confirmed one person, and administered the Holy Communion.

At night in St. Luke's Church, Tarboro, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Cheshire, Butler and Alston, I preached, confirmed nine persons and addressed them.

Wednesday, May 26th, in Church of the Good Shepherd, Rocky Mount, after Morning Prayer by Rev. B. S. Bronson, I preached, confirmed three persons and administered the Holy Communion.

Sunday, May 30th, in St. Paul's Church, Louisburg, after Morning Prayer and an adult baptism by Rev. Dr. Sutton, I preached, confirmed two persons and administered the Holy Communion;—preached again in the evening.

During the past year, this Church has been without a Rector, and has only enjoyed the benefit of occasional Services. I am hoping soon to make such arrangements as will secure regular ministrations for the Parish.

Thursday, June 3d, Ascension Day, in St. Augustine Church, Raleigh, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Dr. Carmichael and Rev. H. M. Joseph, I preached and admitted to the Diaconate, Mr. Freeman W. Dunn, and administered the Holy Communion.

After officiating for a while at Wilson, with encouraging results, Mr. Dunn was invited to a larger field in Georgia, where he has been working successfully; but he is still canonically connected with this Diocese.

Sunday after Ascension, June 6th, in Salem Chapel, Fairtoth, I conducted the service, preached, and administered the Holy Communion. There are at present no regular

ministrations at this Chapel. The lamented death, during the year, of Mr. Duncan Cameron, who resided at Fairntosh, and who, with the co-operation of his active and zealous wife, was trying to promote the spiritual welfare of the people in that neighborhood, has occasioned no little discouragement to the good work, so well begun there. I shall make every effort to secure again for Salem Chapel the services which are so much needed, and which have been so highly appreciated.

Whitsun-Day, June 13th, in St. Matthew's Church, Hillsboro, after Morning Prayer by Rev. J. W. Murphy, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. Preached again in the evening, confirmed two persons, and addressed them.

Trinity Sunday, June 20th, in St. Thomas Church, New York, I took part in an ordination service, when the Assistant Bishop of New York admitted fourteen candidates to the Diaconate, and six Deacons to the Priesthood. The occasion was one of peculiar interest. I returned to Raleigh the same week, and on the first Sunday after Trinity, June 27th, took part in the service in the Church of the Good Shepherd. Second Sunday after Trinity, July 4th, in Christ Church, Raleigh, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Dr. Marshall and Rev. B. Smedes, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

Left Raleigh during the week, to spend a few days at the Sea-side. Third Sunday after Trinity, July 11th, in the parlor of the "Atlantic Hotel," at Morehead City, I conducted the service and preached. Fourth Sunday after Trinity, July 18th, in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Raleigh, after Morning Prayer by Rev. R. Strange, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. Left the same week to enter upon my visitation in the Western part of the State.

Sunday, July 25th, in Church of St. John in the Wilderness, Flat Rock, I assisted Rev. Mr. Drayton in the service, and preached. The same day, in St. James Church, Hendersonville, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Mr. Drayton, I

preached, confirmed two persons, and addressed them. Monday, July 26th, in a cottage near Farmer's Hotel, Flat Rock, I baptized two infants.

Wednesday and Thursday, July 28th and 29th, attended a meeting of the Fellows of Ravenscroft Associate Mission and Training School. We used every effort to secure the opening, in the Autumn, of a school for boys, but we failed to accomplish the object. I trust that such measures may be adopted by this Convention, as will insure the speedy commencement of a work which is so much needed. Sixth Sunday after Trinity, August 1, in Calvary Church, Henderson county, after Morning Prayer by Rev. W. S. Bynum, I preached, confirmed twenty-two persons, addressed them and administered the Holy Communion.

At 4:30 p. m. in Mt. Calvary Chapel, seven miles from the church, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Mr. Bynum, I preached, confirmed eight persons and addressed them.

Monday, August 2d, I confirmed in private a sick member of Calvary Parish. It is gratifying to hear of the activity and increased zeal which has been awakened in this Parish, and the corresponding growth and prosperity, which is such a sure and certain result.

Tuesday, August 3d, in St. Paul's Church, Henderson County, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Bynum and Bell, I preached, confirmed six persons, addressed them and administered the Holy Communion.

At 4 p. m., on my way to Bowman's Bluff, I stopped, by appointment, at a private house, some four miles before reaching Hendersonville, and found quite a large congregation assembled. After a short service by Rev. Mr. Bynum, I preached, confirmed six persons and addressed them. Through all that neighborhood there is a large and encouraging field for Missionary work. After the service, I had a drive of some twelve or thirteen miles, and reached Bowman's Bluff about sunset. I had the satisfaction of meeting

that evening, most of the members of the English colony, settled in that vicinity.

The next day, Wednesday, August 4th, at a school house, used by the Gethsemane Mission, for their place of worship, I preached and administered the Holy Communion, being assisted in the service by the Rev. Richard Wainwright, the Missionary in charge. I was pleased to learn that steps had already been taken for the erection of a suitable Church building on a very eligible lot, which had been given for the purpose. I gave them every encouragement and the promise of aid in carrying on the work; and I am glad to say that a very neat building has been completed, and was occupied for the first time last Easter Day. With a zealous and cultured clergyman, and a congregation, though small in numbers, yet active and earnest, I feel sure that a leavening power will make itself manifest in the surrounding neighborhood. It gratifies me to say that the Church thus erected is out of debt, and they desire its Consecration during my visit to the mountain region, the coming summer.

In the afternoon of the same day, I drove on to Brevard, some fifteen miles further up the French Broad river, and the next day, Thursday, August 5th, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Dr. Buel, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. A heavy rain that morning interfered very much with the success of the service. It was the first time I had officiated in the new and tasteful church, which is not yet entirely completed. We have only a small band of Church workers there, and they are not able, without assistance, to do what their hearts are yearning to accomplish.

The rain ceased in the afternoon, and I drove to the neighborhood of Calvary Church, and continued on, the next morning, to Asheville.

Saturday, August 7th, I left for Hickory and Lenoir, reaching the latter place at 11 p. m.

Sunday, August 8th, I was much gratified to meet the former Rector, Rev. Mr. Bush, and the Rev. Mr. Walker,

who had timed their excursion to the neighborhood, so as to chime in with my visit. In St. James Church, Lenoir, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Bush and Walker, I preached, confirmed three persons, addressed them and administered the Holy Communion. A very large congregation was present. I preached again in the evening. The Church was at the time without a Rector, the Rev. Mr. Weston having resigned the charge. I had a conference with the Vestry, after the Morning Service, and a few weeks later, satisfactory arrangements were made, and the Rev. Vardry McBee undertook the Rectorship, in connection with the church at Hickory. I am glad to hear that he is doing a very encouraging work, not only in these two places, but is also carrying on some valuable missionary work in the neighborhood of Lenoir. Much zeal has been awakened in the Parish at Lenoir, and a vigorous effort is now in progress, for the erection of a new and larger church.

Monday, August 9th, I left on the early train for Hickory, and at 8 p. m., in the Church of the Ascension, I conducted the Evening Service, and preached.

Tuesday, August 10th, I proceeded in the morning by way of Lincolnton to Charlotte, where I met the Board of Managers of the Thompson Orphanage. We spent some time in discussing the most feasible plans, and had a very satisfactory meeting. The Institution will speedily be opened, and I confidently believe that it will awaken, throughout the Diocese, that interest and sympathy,—that thoughtful care, which it so greatly needs, and to which it is so justly entitled. I left the same evening for Lincolnton. The next day was spent quietly there, and in making arrangements for the Consecration of the new and beautiful Church so recently completed. I walked up to see the building, and was surprised and deeply gratified by what had been accomplished. It is very striking in its reverent and churchly qualities, and reflects very great credit upon Mr. Silas McBee, who so judiciously arranged the plans, while

some of the finest work, about the chancel, was done by his own hands, as a labor of love. I was much pleased also with the very tasteful Rood Screen, which was presented by the builder, and which gives to the interior a very fine and striking effect. There are also several Memorial windows which are beautifully executed. No one can enter the building, without being impressed with its sacred character. It is only a frame edifice, and by no means costly, but it conveys a very impressive lesson as to what may be done with limited means, where a refined and cultured taste gives beauty and symmetry to the whole.

On Thursday, August 12th, I Consecrated the Church under the name of St. Luke's. The day was bright and beautiful, and long before the appointed hour, crowds of people were thronging to the town from the surrounding country. Many friends had also come from other Parishes, to mingle their rejoicings. The procession of the Clergy was met at the western door by the Wardens and Vestry, and passed up the central aisle. The request to consecrate was then read by the Senior Warden, Mr. Vardry McBee, when the Bishop proceeded with the service. The Sentence of Consecration was read by the Rev. J. C. Huske, D. D., of Fayetteville, and Morning Prayer by Rev. E. N. Joyner, of South Carolina, Rev. Geo. B. Wetmore, D. D., and Rev. C. J. Curtis. The sermon was preached by the Bishop, who also administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Rev. W. R. Wetmore, Rector of the Parish. We all heartily congratulated the Rector upon such a noble result of his long and faithful ministry in Lincolnton. And well may we believe that the possession of so tasteful and attractive a building, will prove eminently helpful to still greater progress and prosperity.

In the afternoon, I met the Clergy of the Convocation of Charlotte, in the vestry room, and conferred with them in regard to their work.

At 8 p. m., in the Church of Our Saviour, about two miles from town, after Evening Prayer by the Rev. Messrs. Quin, Osborne and Curtis, I preached, confirmed six persons and addressed them. A heavy thunder storm, which came up in the afternoon, and continued until shortly before the hour of service, disappointed large numbers who had hoped to be present.

Friday, August 13th, in St. Luke's Church, we had another most interesting service, when I admitted to the priesthood, Rev. Vardry McBee, Deacon, on presentation by Rev. W. R. Wetmore. The Epistle in the Communion Office was read by Rev. Mr. Wetmore, and the Gospel by Rev. Dr. Huske. The sermon was preached by me, and I also administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Rev. Mr. Wetmore and Rev. Dr. Huske. These brethren, together with the Rev. Geo. B. Wetmore D. D., and Rev. E. A. Osborne united in the imposition of hands. The Rev. Messrs. Curtis, Greaves and Quin were also present. At night, the church was again crowded with a deeply interested congregation, when, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Greaves, Osborne and Quin, and an adult baptism by the Rector, I confirmed ten persons and addressed them. Thus ended a series of most cheering and spirited services, which afforded much gratification to the whole community, while greatly encouraging the zealous Rector, whose faithful labours have been crowned with such signal success.

The next day, I went to Tyron City, Polk County, and on Sunday, August 15th, in the Church of the Holy Cross, after Morning Prayer by Rev. F. B. Ticknor and Rev. Milnor Jones, I preached, confirmed two persons and administered the Holy Communion.

Tuesday, August 17th, in the Log Church at Mills X Roads, Rev. Messrs. Ticknor and Jones conducted the service, and I preached, confirmed seven persons and addressed them. The building was quite insufficient to accommodate the multitude who seemed so anxious to hear the word.

We have a noble field in that neighborhood, but we sadly need a better place of worship, and the services of an efficient missionary. The people are nearly all quite poor, but honest, simple hearted and teachable. I much lament that the arrangement which I made with Rev. Mr. Ticknor, to take charge of these two congregations, in connection with Missions in Henderson county, proved to be only of short continuance. After entering upon the work with much apparent zeal, he soon wearied of it, and sought during my absence from the country, a more congenial field, in another Diocese. I am now looking anxiously for an earnest, self-denying man, who will be willing to seek after these scattered sheep. One who will take hold of this work in the right spirit, will find his labours crowned with the largest success. The same evening I left for Asheville.

Sunday, August 22d, in St. David's Church, Cullowhee, Jackson county, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Dr. Buel, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

Tuesday, August 24th, in St. John's, Macon County, after Morning Prayer by Rev. J. A. Deal and Rev. Dr. Buel, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

Wednesday, August 25th, I preached in the Presbyterian Church in Franklin, after Evening Prayer by Dr. Buel and Mr. Deal. It gratifies me to learn that the beautiful site purchased by me, the year before, in the town of Franklin is soon to be crowned with a suitable and attractive Church building. Mr. Deal has been very successful in his efforts to raise funds for this object, and although he has not got all that is required, he has sufficient to justify the vigorous commencement of the work.

Friday, August 27th, in the school house at Webster, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Dr. Buel, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. We are hoping, during the present season, to commence the erection of a Church here, on the very eligible lot which has been given us for

that purpose. It is very difficult to do any aggressive work until we have a suitable place for worship.

Sunday, August 29th, in Grace Church in the Mountains, Waynesville, after Morning Prayer and the baptism of an adult by Dr. Buel, I preached, confirmed two persons, and administered the Holy Communion.

At 4 o'clock p. m., in the Chapel at Mica Dale, after Evening Prayer and the baptism of two Adults by Dr. Buel, I preached, confirmed seven persons and addressed them. An excellent parochial school has been established here, and is doing a very efficient and valuable work. Such schools, especially in the rural districts, are of inestimable value in helping forward our christian labors.

Wednesday, September 1st, in St. Andrews's Church, Buncombe County, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Dr. Buxton and Rev. Mr. Postell, I preached, confirmed two persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion.

Sunday, September 5th, in Trinity Church, Asheville, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Dr. Buxton and Rev. J. T. Clark, I preached, confirmed twelve persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion.

At night, in Trinity Chapel, after Evening Prayer by Rev. J. B. Massiah, I preached, confirmed nine persons, and addressed them.

Tuesday, September 7th, in the Methodist Chapel, near Candler's, Buncombe County, after Morning Prayer by Rev. George H. Bell, I preached and confirmed five persons.

Wednesday, September 8th, in Trinity Church, Asheville, I admitted to the Holy Order of Deacons, Mr. Wm. F. Rice, who was presented by Rev. Dr. Buell. Morning Prayer was said by Rev. George H. Bell and Rev. J. H. Postell. I preached the sermon and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Rev. Dr. Buxton. Mr. Rice has since been officiating in the neighborhood of Asheville.

Thursday, September 9th, left for Morganton. At 8 p. m., after Evening Prayer by Rev. Mr. Watters, I preached,

confirmed seven persons, and addressed them. The congregation was a very large one, and the service was spirited and encouraging. It afforded me great satisfaction to learn of the harmony and prosperity by which the Parish is characterized.

I left the next day for Statesville, where I had an appointment for the evening, but owing to a serious delay on the railroad, we came to the station too late for the service, and I therefore concluded to go directly on to Greensboro.

Saturday, September 11th, I took the morning train to Winston, and on Sunday, September 12th, in St. Paul's Church, after Morning Prayer and the baptism of two adults by Rev. Mr. Lacey, I preached, confirmed five persons, and addressed them. A telegram reached me announcing the death in Baltimore of my wife's brother, and I recalled the two or three remaining appointments, and took the train that night for Baltimore, arriving there the following morning. I only remained until the next evening, when I left with my wife for Raleigh.

The following Sunday, September 17th, I preached in the Church of the Good Shepherd, and administered the Holy Communion. I was much occupied during the week with preparations for leaving to attend the General Convention. It was my expectation also to proceed to Europe directly after the Convention, to fulfill my duties as Bishop in charge of the American churches established on the Continent.

Sunday, September 26th, I preached in Christ Church, Raleigh, and left the next morning for New York.

On Friday, October 1st, I started for Chicago, having arranged to break the journey in Detroit, where I passed two days very pleasantly, with valued friends.

Sunday, October 3d, I preached in Christ Church, Detroit, and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by the Rector, Rev. R. W. Clark. At night I preached in St. John's Church, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Mr. Blanchard and Bishop Worthington, the former Rector of the parish.

Tuesday, October 5th, I went with quite a large and pleasant party to Chicago.

Wednesday, October 6th, took part in St. James Church, in the opening services of the General Convention. I continued in daily attendance upon the meetings of the House of Bishops.

Saturday, October 16th, I went with a large party of Bishops, clergy and laity, on a special train, provided for us, to pay a visit by invitation to Racine College. We were cordially welcomed by the Warden and officers of the college, and escorted through the buildings and beautiful grounds. A handsome dinner was provided in the large dining hall, to which nearly 250 persons did ample justice. Shortly before the return of the party to Chicago, I took the train a little further on to Milwaukee, and on the next day, Sunday, October 17th, I preached by previous appointment in St. John's Church, in the morning, and in the Cathedral at night. I returned early the next morning to Chicago. On the following Saturday evening I went by invitation, in company with several of the Bishops, to spend the next day at Ann Arbor, the seat of the State University of Michigan. The special object of the visit, was to be present at the lecture by Bishop Coxe introductory to a course, lately endowed by the Governor and Mrs. Baldwin, of Detroit, in "Defence of Christian truth." Great interest was awakened in the University by this course of lectures, and it was gratifying to witness the crowds who thronged the Church to hear this first lecture. We returned by a train which left late at night for Chicago, and arrived in time, on Monday, for the Sessions of the Convention. Before the close of the Convention, as I purposed sailing for Europe early in November, I issued a Pastoral Letter to the Diocese, and also prepared a paper, devolving upon the Standing Committee, the duty of acting as the Ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese, during my absence. I

left Chicago shortly before the adjournment of the Convention, and hurried to New York, to make preparations for sailing.

On Sunday, October 31st, I took part in the service in St. Thomas Church, and preached.

Our sailing day, November 4th, proved a very pleasant one, and a large number of my personal friends, and those of other passengers, came down to take leave of us. We went to sea under most favorable auspices, and a kind Providence tempered the winds, during all the passage. On Sunday, November 7th, by request of the Captain, I conducted the service, and preached in the large cabin of the steamer. We reached Liverpool in nine days, and I had become so much attached to many of the passengers, that I felt quite sorry to part with them. After being most hospitably entertained by kind friends in Birkenhead, I left on Monday, the 15th, for London. After a pleasant week there, and receiving many kind attentions, I crossed the channel and proceeded to Paris, arriving there on the evening of Monday, November 22d, where I received a very warm and cordial welcome. I was made quite happy in the pleasant home of old friends, who made me feel that I was by no means a stranger among them.

On Thursday, November 25th, I Consecrated the large and beautiful Church of the Holy Trinity which had only been recently completed. In company with the Bishop of New York, a considerable number of the clergy, and a large body of white-robed choristers, we moved from the Vestry room along the Cloister, to the great door of entrance, where we were met by the Wardens and Vestry. The procession passed up the central aisle to the Chancel, and having taken my place in the Episcopal chair, the request to consecrate was read by the American Minister, Hon. Robert M. McLane, I then proceeded with the Consecration Service, the Sentence of Consecration being read by the Rev. Dr. Morgan, Rector of the church. The sermon, which was a very admirable

and appropriate one, was delivered by the Bishop of New York. Several of the clergy, both English and American, took part in the service, the Holy Communion being administered by me, with the assistance of my reverend brethren. The whole ceremonial was one of very marked interest, and the stately edifice, thus duly consecrated, bears witness to the persevering zeal of the Rector, and the generous liberality of those who enabled him to accomplish so noble a work.

On the following Sunday, in the same Church, after Morning Prayer by the Rev. Drs. Morgan and Mackay, I preached, confirmed thirty-three persons and addressed them. I took part also in the Evening Service.

Wednesday, December 1st, at a private house in Paris, I united a couple in Holy Matrimony.

Sunday, December 5th, in Church of the Holy Trinity, I preached and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by Bishop Elliott and Drs. Morgan and Mackay. On the afternoon of that Sunday, I went, by special invitation, to the building which had been occupied for some time as a place of worship, by the congregation of Père Hyacinth. The church was filled by a large and respectable congregation. I accompanied the Père into the chancel, and occupied the Episcopal chair. After a very spirited service, the Père entered the pulpit, and delivered a discourse of very great eloquence and power. At the close of the service, I ascended the altar steps, and pronounced the Benediction. I was much gratified by this opportunity to witness the work carried on by this zealous Reformer, in the face of so much opposition, and so many discouragements. I saw a good deal of him while I was in Paris, and became thoroughly convinced that his work has not been properly understood, nor duly appreciated. I can but hope that he will soon meet with a much larger measure of sympathy, as the valuable results of his work become more conspicuously apparent. On the evening of the same day, I preached, by special invitation, in the English Church, in the Rue d'Aguessean,

under the charge of the Rev. Dr. Gill. During my stay in Paris, I was the recipient of much kindness and hospitality from the Rector and congregation of Holy Trinity Church.

Tuesday, December 7th, I left on the night train for Geneva, arriving there the following morning. I was met at the station by the Rev. Mr. Adamson, the clergyman now in charge of the American congregation, and also by Mr. Naylor, the vice Consul, at whose house I was most hospitably entertained. I spent a pleasant week in Geneva, officiating on Sunday in Emmanuel Church, and becoming acquainted with most of the families belonging to the congregation, with many of whom I was brought into kindly social relations. The city is a very lovely and attractive one, and has greatly improved, since my last visit there, some fifteen years ago.

On Tuesday, December 14th, I left for Dresden, going by way of Basle and Frankfort.

Sunday, December 19th, in the new and beautiful St. John's Church, I preached in the morning, and in the afternoon confirmed fourteen persons and addressed them, being assisted in the services by the Rector, Rev. T. F. Caskey. The next day I went on a brief visit to Berlin, returning to Dresden on Thursday. That evening I met a large number of the members of the congregation and others, at the residence of the Rector.

On Saturday, being Christmas day, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Caskey and Mitchell, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

The next day, Sunday, December 26th, I took part in the Morning Service at St. John's Church, and at night preached in the English Memorial Church of All Saints.

Monday, December 27th, St. John's Day, was fixed on for the Consecration of the Church which was only recently completed, and which was to bear the name of St. John's Church. I proceeded with the service, in accordance with the order set forth in the Prayer Book. The request to

consecrate was presented and read by the Senior Warden, Mr. Fred. W. Jones, of New York, and the sentence of Consecration by the Rector, Rev. T. F. Caskey. Morning Prayer was read by Archdeacon Gray and Rev. Mr. Stewart, of the Church of England. The second lesson appointed for the Consecration Service was read, in German, by the Pastor of the principal Lutheran Church in the city, and was also read, in English, by Rev. Mr. Mitchell, of the Diocese of New York. The Epistle, in the Communion office, was read by the Rev. Mr. Caskey, and the Gospel was read, in Greek, by the Rev. Mr. Smirnoff, the resident Priest of the Greek Church in Dresden, and was also read, in English, by the Rev. Mr. Gilderdale, Chaplain of the English Church of All Saints. The Sermon was preached by me, and I also administered the Holy Communion, assisted by several of the Clergy present. The whole service was very solemn and imposing, and being thus witnessed for the first time in Germany, made a very deep and salutary impression. During my stay in Dresden, every attention and hospitality was kindly extended to me. And what I saw impressed me with the conviction that a very valuable work is going on there, under the guidance of its active and faithful Rector. The Church edifice occupies a most commanding site, which was very wisely selected, and generously presented for the object, and it promises to be the centre of a great influence for good. I left for Nice on the evening of the Consecration Day, and the journey proved a very long and fatiguing one. Upon my arrival on Wednesday evening, December 29th, I was warmly welcomed, and enjoyed the generous hospitality of kind and considerate friends. Everything was done by the Rector and Congregation to make my stay most enjoyable.

On Saturday, being New Year's Day, in the very convenient Chapel now occupied by the congregation of the Church of the Holy Spirit, I took part in the Service, and made an address appropriate to the day.

Sunday, January 2d, in the same Chapel, after Morning

Prayer by the Rector, Rev. John Cornell, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. At 4 p. m., after Evening Prayer, I confirmed eight persons, and addressed them.

Wednesday, January 5th, I laid the Corner Stone of a new Church, a portion of the walls being already considerably advanced. The occasion was a novel one in that city, and awakened a very general interest. The procession moved from a small building at the rear of the Church, to the site of the Corner Stone, which I proceeded to lay, in accordance with a form widely used in this country. Several English clergymen were present, and with the Rector of the Church, took part in the service. An address appropriate to the occasion was made by me. I was pleased to observe that although the streets, at the corner of which the Church stands, were much crowded, the most perfect order prevailed to the end. The building is constructed of stone, and in an excellent style of architecture, and when completed, will present a very attractive appearance. It has afforded me much satisfaction to learn recently that the earthquake which created so much alarm there some two months ago, resulted in no injury whatever to the walls of the Church. The building is now advancing rapidly toward completion.

The next day, Thursday, January 6th, I left for Florence, arriving there early on the morning of the 7th. I was met at the station by the Rector, Rev. Fred. Ward Dennis, and escorted to the apartment of a most estimable American family, where I was very kindly and hospitably entertained. I remained a week in Florence, and found still there a few old friends, who had attended upon the services which I held in that city during the winter of 1860-'61. There is now provided for our services, a very comfortable and well arranged Chapel, which was purchased and adapted to our purposes, and was Consecrated more than a year ago.

Sunday, January 9th, after Morning Prayer by Rev. F.

W. Dennis and Rev. Mr. McGrath, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. Took part also in the service in the afternoon. It afforded me much satisfaction to learn how very successful Mr. Dennis has been in restoring harmony and prosperity to the congregation, after the difficulties and troubles which had so long disturbed it. I had the pleasure of meeting most of the congregation at a reception given me at the house of the Rector, from whom I received every kindness and courtesy.

Thursday, January 13th, I left on the morning train for Rome, arriving there between three and four in the afternoon. On leaving the railway station, I noticed so many changes, all around me, that I hardly recognized the locality. Whole blocks of substantial buildings now occupy the space, which appeared only as vacant fields, eight years ago. I went to the large "Hotel Quirinale," where most comfortable provision had been made for me, and where I was very happy to meet my esteemed brother, Bishop Elliott, of Western Texas. The Rev. Dr. Nevin, Rector of the Church, was absent, in consequence of ill health, and had gone to India. Rev. Walter Thompson, the Minister in charge, showed me every courtesy. I was only able to remain about a week in Rome, but during that time, I met nearly all my old friends, from whom I received the greatest kindness and hospitality.

On Sunday, January 16th, in St. Paul's Church, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Walter Thompson, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. I took part also in the Evening Service.

Monday, January 17th, I met, at the Rectory, besides the Minister in charge, the Rev. Mr. Pickance, of the Church of England, and Count Campello, and we conferred together in regard to the Italian Reform movement.

Tuesday, January 18th, I held a private Confirmation in St. Paul's Church, and confirmed one person.

Wednesday, January 19th, I left in the evening, on my homeward journey, arriving the next day in Nice, where I made a second brief visit.

Sunday, January 23d, in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit, I preached after both the Morning and Evening Service. The day was a very pleasant one, and the congregations were large.

Tuesday, January 25th, I took the train to Paris, and spent a few days there also.

Sunday, January 30th, in the Church of the Holy Trinity, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Dr. Morgan and Rev. Mr. Warner, I preached, confirmed three persons, and addressed them. I preached again at the Evening Service, and directly afterwards, accompanied the Rector to a private residence, where I confirmed two persons, one of whom was hindered, by ill health, from attendance at the public Service.

The next day, Monday, January 31st, I left for London.

Wednesday, February 2d, I went by invitation to visit the Bishop of Salisbury, returning to London the next day.

Friday, February 4th, it afforded me much gratification to be present in the private Chapel of Lambeth Palace, and take part in the interesting service, commemorative of the Consecration in that Chapel, one hundred years before, of the first Bishops of Pennsylvania and New York. The Archbishop of Canterbury presided, and conducted the service, assisted by the other Bishops present. The Epistle was read by me, and the Gospel by the Bishop of London. A very fitting and appropriate address was delivered by the Bishop of New York, and the Bishop of Rochester assisted in the Communion Service. It was my privilege, while in London, to share the kind hospitality of the Archbishop, and to receive many courtesies from persons of prominence and distinction.

On Tuesday, February 8th, I left for Liverpool, where I spent the next day, and sailed on Thursday, February 10th, for New York. The homeward voyage was remarkably

pleasant for the season, and we arrived early in the morning of Saturday of the following week.

The next day, Sunday, February 20th, I preached in Christ Church, New York, and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by the Rector, Rev. Dr. Shipman.

Friday, February 25th, I proceeded on to Baltimore, and on Sunday, February 27th, I took part in the Morning Service in Grace Church, and preached the first of a course of Lenten Sermons in the evening.

I left for Raleigh on Wednesday, March 2d, and reached home the following evening, with a feeling of profound gratitude for all the mercies which had attended me, during my protracted absence.

Sunday, March 6th, in Christ Church, Raleigh, after Morning Prayer by Rev. J. A. Weston, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

Sunday, March 13th, in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Raleigh, I assisted the Rector in the service, preached and administered the Holy Communion.

Friday, March 18th, I left for Reidsville, and the next day went on to Leaksville.

Sunday, March 20th, in the Church of the Epiphany, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Alban Greaves and Rev. H. K. Brouse, I preached, confirmed ten persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. The congregation was a very large one, and much beyond the capacity of the building. A new and lively interest seems to be awakened in the Parish. In the afternoon, I went to Reidsville, and at night, in St. Thomas' Church, after Evening Prayer by Mr. Greaves, I preached, confirmed seven persons and addressed them. This Mission is also in the charge of Mr. Greaves, and I was glad to see here also, so much cause for encouragement. I returned the next day to Raleigh, and left on Saturday to enter upon my Spring Visitation.

5th Sunday in Lent, March 27th, in Emmanuel Church, Warrenton, after Morning Prayer by Rev. G. Higgs, I

preached, confirmed two persons, and administered the Holy Communion. Preached again at the Evening Service.

Monday, March 28th, in Grace Church, Weldon, Mr. Higgs conducted the service, and I preached.

Tuesday, March 29th, in St. Mark's Church, Halifax, after Morning Prayer by Rev. H. W. Robinson. I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

Wednesday, March 30th, in Church of the Advent, Enfield, Morning Prayer was read by Rev. Dr. Smith. I confirmed one person, preached and administered the Holy Communion.

Friday, April 1st, in St. Clement's Church, Ringwood, Rev. Dr. Smith assisted in the service, and I preached and administered the Holy Communion. Dr. Smith has been holding services two Sundays in each month in this Church, but is now giving one of these Sundays to the Church in Franklin, Virginia, of which he has undertaken the charge, in connection with Enfield, Ringwood and Littleton.

The Church at Ringwood has sustained a very great loss, in the recent death of Mr. Charles W. Garrett, one of its most active and liberal members.

6th Sunday in Lent, April 3d, in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Rocky Mount, after Morning Prayer by the Rev. B. S. Bronson, I preached and administered the Holy Communion.

Monday, April 4th, in St. Timothy's Church, Wilson, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Mr. Bronson, I preached, confirmed three persons and addressed them. While in Wilson, I urged upon several of the Vestry whom I met, the great importance of securing for that Parish, the undivided services of Mr. Bronson. I feel sure that it would give a fresh impulse to the growth and prosperity of the Church, in that beautiful and thriving town.

Wednesday before Easter, April 6th, I preached in Calvary Church, Tarboro, after Morning Prayer by Mr. Lewis. The venerable Rector was prevented by temporary indisposition from being with us at our services. At night

Rev. Walter J. Smith read Evening Prayer. I preached, confirmed five persons, and addressed them.

Thursday, April 7th, in St. Luke's Church, Morning Prayer was read by Rev. W. J. Smith. I confirmed six persons and addressed them. I then preached an Ordination Sermon, and upon presentation by Rev. Dr. Cheshire, I admitted to the Priesthood the Rev. John W. Perry, Deacon, the Minister in charge, and administered the Holy Communion. Dr. Cheshire and Mr. Smith united in the imposition of hands. I left in the afternoon for the neighborhood of St. Mary's Church, and spent the night there.

Good Friday, April 8th, in St. Mary's Church, Edgcombe county, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Walter J. Smith, I preached, confirmed five persons and addressed them. In the afternoon we drove ten miles to Palmyra, where Mr. Smith is now holding regular services, and in a large hall, secured for the purpose, I found an excellent and most attentive congregation. I preached, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Mr. Smith. I feel that our faithful and excellent Missionary has much to encourage him in his work in that neighborhood, and I anticipate that an effort will soon be made to build a small Chapel in Palmyra. The effort is certainly worthy of all sympathy and encouragement. I spent the night with a much esteemed family in the neighborhood, and was driven early the next morning six miles, to Scotland Neck. At 11 o'clock, in Trinity Church, I took part in the Easter Even Service, and preached.

Easter Day, April 10th, proved a most brilliant and lovely day, and the hearts of the good people of Scotland Neck were made glad by its jubilant services. Large congregations were present both morning and evening. The estimable Rector has given a fresh impulse to the work of the Church. He has organized a surpliced choir, and the music is of a very simple, earnest and congregational character. After Morning Prayer by the Rector, I preached, confirmed six

persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. Rev. W. J. Smith came over and took part in the Evening Service, when I preached again.

Tuesday after Easter, April 12th, in the Church of Our Saviour, Jackson, after Morning Prayer by Rev. G. Higgs, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. Preached again in the evening.

We were all made very sad the next day, by the tidings of the death, on the very evening of the visitation, of Mrs. Henry Burgwin, a former member of this Parish, and who had during the last two years shown her deep and abiding interest in it, by contributing liberally to those improvements in the Parish Church, which have added so much to its beauty and attractiveness. She had been looking forward with special interest to being with us at this visitation, and had left Richmond with that purpose, but tarrying a few days in Henderson, she contracted a severe cold, which soon assumed an alarming form, and proved fatal only a short time after our Evening service had closed. Her death is not only a great loss to that Parish, but to her own immediate family, and to that large circle of friends, who so honored and loved her.

Thursday, April 14th, in St. Luke's Church, Gaston, I read Morning Prayer, preached, confirmed four persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. In consequence of the death of Mrs. Burgwyn, Mr. Higgs was not able to be present, as he had gone to take part in the funeral service at Richmond. It afforded me much satisfaction to find in this Mission at Gaston so many tokens of quickened life and interest. Active steps have already been taken for the erection of a new Church, and I have every reason to believe that the work will be pushed steadily and rapidly forward.

Friday, April 15th, in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Ridgeway, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Mr. Pettigrew, I

preached, confirmed one person, and administered the Holy Communion.

First Sunday after Easter, April 17th, in the Church of the Holy Innocents, Henderson, after Morning Prayer by Rev. J. E. Ingle, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. In the afternoon preached again, confirmed six persons and addressed them.

I found considerable advance, since my last visit, toward the completion of the beautiful Church which has been erected here. A very graceful spire, surmounted by a gilt cross, has been added, and makes the whole building a conspicuous ornament to the town. Some little details are yet to be added, by which time I trust that all liabilities will be met, so that by another year, it can be duly Consecrated.

Tuesday, April 19th, in the Chapel at Middleburg, Rev. Mr. Pettigrew assisted in the service, and I preached, confirmed one person, and administered the Holy Communion.

Wednesday, April 20th, in St. John's Church, Williamsboro, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Mr. Pettigrew, I preached, confirmed four persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion.

The next day, I was driven to Oxford, and thence, the same evening, to Goshen.

Friday, April 22d, I baptized an adult, lately recovered from a severe illness, and afterwards, in St. Paul's Church, I conducted the service, preached, confirmed one person, and administered the Holy Communion. The Rev. Mr. Webb, of the Diocese of Virginia, the Missionary in charge, who had expected to be present at the visitation, was detained by sickness in his family.

Second Sunday after Easter, April 24th, in St. Stephen's Church, Oxford, after Morning Prayer by Rev. L. W. Rose, I preached and administered the Holy Communion. At the Evening Service, I preached, confirmed eleven persons and addressed them. During the past year, the Parish has suffered a severe loss in the death of Mr. Hicks, the Senior

Warden, who for so many years had been such an active and energetic worker. The late disastrous fire also worked no little injury to members of our congregation, but I am encouraged to believe that a better and more earnest spirit is making itself felt in the Parish, and that we shall soon be permitted to see the fruits of a reawakened energy and zeal.

Tuesday, April 26th, in St. James Church, Kittrell, after Morning Prayer by Rev. J. E. Ingle, I preached, confirmed seven persons, addressed them, and administered the Holy Communion. It is very gratifying to know that the effort which has been carried on for several years, by the Ladies of the congregation, to raise a sum for permanent investment, as a partial endowment toward the support of a Rector, has been eminently successful, and quite a considerable sum has been already securely invested for that object. What a real blessing would it be if those, to whom God has entrusted some considerable of earthly means, would only take care to make provision, before their death, for the bestowal of a sufficient sum, for permanent investment, so that the interest arising from it might make good what would otherwise be lost to the Parish by their removal. We have many instances in this Diocese, of Parishes, once prosperous, which have become so poor by the death of their wealthier members, that it has been found well nigh impossible to keep up the services of the Sanctuary. Such gifts as I have indicated, would do much to prevent so serious a calamity.

Friday, April 29th, I visited Durham, and in St. Philip's Church, after Evening Prayer by Rev. T. M. N. George, I preached, confirmed fifteen persons, and addressed them. It was a source of much gratification to me to learn of the harmonious and prosperous condition of this Parish, and the cordial co-operation, on every side, with their faithful and energetic Rector. I left late the same night for Charlotte, arriving there early on Saturday afternoon.

The next day, Sunday, May 1st, in St. Peter's Church, the Rev. Mr. Cheshire assisted in the service, and I preached

and administered the Holy Comunion. At 4:30 p. m., in St. Michael's Church, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Mr. Cheshire and Mr. Alston, I preached, confirmed nine persons and addressed them. At night, in St. Peter's Church, after Evening Prayer by Rev. Messrs. Osborne and Cheshire, I preached, confirmed thirty persons and addressed them. The Church was thronged to its utmost capacity, and the deepest interest was manifested in the services. I was much cheered by the indications of increased religious earnestness, and I can only trust and pray that it may prove deep rooted and abiding.

The next day, I presided at a meeting of the Managers of the Thompson Orphanage, and the same evening left on my return to Raleigh.

Fourth Sunday after Easter, May 8th, in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Raleigh, after Morning Prayer by Rev. Robert Strange, I preached, confirmed eleven persons, and addressed them. A very healthy and earnest work is going on in this Parish, and there is abundant evidence of that unity and harmony which is the sure pledge of increasing prosperity. On the evening of the same day, in the Chapel of St. Mary's School, after Evening Prayer by the Rector, Rev. B. Smedes, I confirmed six of the pupils of the School, and addressed them. This noble Institution is still carrying on its efficient work, and proving itself eminently worthy of the largest encouragement. The gentle and refining Christian influence for which this School has so long been distinguished, is united with such an elevated standard of scholarship, as justly entitles it to a high place among the most distinguished Seminaries in our land.

The last official act which I have to report, is the ordination to the Diaconate, in your presence yesterday, of Mr. William Thomas Picard, upon presentation by Rev. Gilbert Higgs. Mr. Picard purposes to continue his residence and secular employment as hitherto, in Jackson, but will officiate regularly as Assistant to Rev. Mr. Higgs in the Church

of Our Saviour there, and perform such missionary duties in the neighborhood as he may have the time and encouragement to undertake.

My visitations last Summer and Autumn, in the Western part of the State, were less extended than usual, because of the approach of the Triennial General Convention, which made it necessary for me to return East soon after the middle of September. I am generally occupied with that District until after the end of October. Many of the stations which would otherwise have been visited, I was obliged to pass over. Of course it is not to be expected that all these remote stations should receive a visitation every year, but it is my purpose to visit them as often as is compatible with other and pressing duties, and as the necessities of each case may seem to demand. What these numerous missions most require, is more frequent visits of active and zealous missionaries; and at this time we are sadly in need of many more earnest laborers. And in order that they may be secured, and their services continued, there must be a very considerable increase in our missionary offerings. Certainly, there is not among us a sufficiently clear apprehension of our duty in this particular. Never were grander opportunities offered, for a most successful missionary work, than now lies before us in this Diocese. May God help us all to realize the better our duties and responsibilities.

The following is the summary of services for the past year :

I have preached on 106 occasions, and delivered 42 addresses; have baptized two infants and one adult; have administered the Holy Communion on 54 occasions; have confirmed 306 persons within the Diocese, and 71 in the Foreign Churches; have Consecrated one Church in the Diocese, and two on the Continent of Europe; have laid the Corner Stone of one Church, viz., at Nice, and have ordained three Deacons and two Priests.

The following changes among the Clergy have taken place since our last Convention. As already intimated three of our Clergy have been called away by death. The Rev. E. R. Rich has taken Letters Dimissory to Central Pennsylvania. Rev. Frank B. Ticknor, who was received into the Diocese from Western Texas, in August last, was transferred in February, to the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Rev. Geo. H. Edwards has resigned the charge of the Missions at Concord, Lexington and High Point, and taken Letters Dimissory to the Diocese of South Carolina. Letters Dimissory have also been given to Rev. H. M. Joseph and Rev J. B. Massiah, but up to this time, I have received no notice of their acceptance.

There have been received into the Diocese Rev. Freeman W. Dunn, Rev. William F. Rice and Rev. Wm. T. Picard by ordination to the Diaconate, Rev. T. M. N. George, by Letters Dimissory from Northern Texas, Rev. Charles J. Curtis, from the Diocese of Maryland and Rev. William Meade Clark, from the Diocese of Virginia.

The Rev. Mr. George is Rector of St. Philip's Church, Durham. The Rev. Mr. Curtis is efficiently at work as Evangelist of the Convocation of Charlotte, and Rev. Mr. Clark is Rector of the Chapel of the Cross, Chapel Hill.

It affords me great pleasure to report fewer changes than usual among the Clergy, and fewer vacancies in the Parishes and Missionary Stations.

The Rev. Vardry McBee has resigned his position as Assistant Minister of Trinity Church, Asheville, and Instructor in the Ravenscroft Training School, and has become Rector of St. James' Church, Lenoir, and the Church of the Ascension, Hickory.

The Rev. George B. Wetmore, D. D., has resigned the charge of St. Andrew's and Christ Churches, in Rowan county, and St. James' Church, Iredell county, and is doing missionary work in Watauga county.

Rev. E. P. Green has been transferred from Watauga county, and is now officiating in the Churches vacated by Dr. Wetmore.

Rev. R. P. Eubanks has been placed in charge of the Missions at Concord, Lexington and High Point, made vacant by the removal from the Diocese of Rev. Geo. H. Edwards.

Rev. Dr. Marshall has found his health so much impaired, as to demand a protracted cessation from public duty. The Vestry of Christ Church have very kindly granted him leave of absence for one year, and have invited the Rev. J. A. Weston to the charge of the Parish, during his absence. His health is already very considerably improved, and I am sure he has the warm wishes of us all for its complete and perfect restoration.

The number of Clergymen now canonically connected with the Diocese is 56; of which 45 are Priests and 11 Deacons.

The candidates for Priests' Orders are: Rev. Primus P. Alston, Rev. E. H. Butler, Rev. E. P. Green, Rev. R. P. Eubanks, Rev. Wm. L. Reaney, Rev. Charles C. Quin, and Mr. John R. Harding.

There is at present only one candidate for Deacon's Orders, viz.: Junius M. Horner; the others reported last year, having all been admitted to the Diaconate.

I am glad to report a considerable number of Postulants, several of whom will soon be enrolled as candidates for orders. They are Hamilton Anderson, Claudius F. Smith, Edward C. Melton, William H. Rogers, William E. Stone, Walter H. Marshall, Richard Bright, Joseph F. Dillon, Nathan A. Seagle, Charles L. Hoffman, Henry Lay Murphy, and Benjamin Sumner McKenzie, twelve in all.

So sore is our need for an increase in the ranks of the Clergy, that I feel impelled to urge upon the Clergy and the Laity, the duty of encouraging more of our young men to think very seriously about the claims of the Christian Ministry upon their personal services. I fear that neither

the Clergy, nor parents take the interest, which they ought to do, in awakening in the minds of the young, a proper sense of their duty and responsibility in this matter. Alas! there is on every side, such an eager concern for the gifts and honors, the comforts and enjoyments of this life, that little thought is given to the claims of our blessed Lord, and the interests of His Spiritual Kingdom. As Christians we are all pledged to the supreme love of God, and to seek, as our first care, the advancement of true religion in the world. Now, if all this is our clear duty, and if the demands of God upon us are reasonable and just, why should all other engagements be more cared for and pursued, than those duties which stand associated with the Christian ministry? Surely it is the love of this present world, its promises and rewards, which is really occupying the first place in the heart. Surely, my brethren, there is a spiritual awakening to which the Church of God is called; a deep and hearty repentance; and a higher realization of what Christianity is, and what are its exalted privileges and its weighty responsibilities. If "no man can serve two masters," let us seriously inquire, who is the master to whom we are giving the homage of our hearts, and the obedience of our lives? Oh! the blessedness of him who "seeks first the kingdom of God," and who realizes the emptiness of all earthly interests, as compared with those which are spiritual, and eternal.

Let me also call the special attention of the Clergy and Laity to the consideration of the very large extent of our Missionary field, and the need of much more liberal offerings, in order that we may not neglect the noble opportunities which are now spread out before us. Our people are not kept sufficiently informed in regard to this work, nor do they seem to recognize, as they ought, their responsibility in connection with it. Some trifling offering thrown into the collection plate is surely not the proper measure of duty. If there were indeed the interest in this great work which

ought to be manifested, the inquiry in every heart would be, how much is it possible for me to spare for this object, rather than how little may I give, and yet save myself from the reproaches of conscience? It is the poor and the destitute for whom we are pleading, and let us well remember those words of eternal truth: "He that hath pity upon the poor, lendeth unto the Lord; and look, what he layeth out, it shall be paid him again." We need all of us to realize, more and more fully, what are our individual obligations and responsibilities, in connection with the extension of the interests of Christ's kingdom among those by whom we are surrounded. Valuable opportunities are often irreparably lost, through a failure to act promptly, when an open door is inviting our co-operation.

As we meet together then, in these annual councils, let us strive to keep distinctly before us what are our great and most urgent needs; and then address ourselves, with all earnestness, to efforts to meet and supply them. We should feel that we come here, not to waste our time over trivial and unimportant questions, but to consult together in regard to those interests in which we are alike concerned, and devise such measures as may seem best fitted to advance them. And may the Great Head of the Church fill all our hearts with the spirit of wisdom and understanding, so that in all our thoughts and words and deeds, we may be enabled to seek only the honor and glory of Him, whose soldiers and servants we are.

THEODORE B. LYMAN.

Diocese of North Carolina,



SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION.

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